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U.S. Department of Agriculture Statistical Reporting Service and U.S. Department of Commerce Environmental Science Services Admn. National Weather Service 10-4-1

Nebraska Department of Agriculture Division of Agr'l. Statistics Agricultural Extension Service of Nebr. College of Agriculture

## NEBRASKA WEEKLY WEATHER AND CROP REPORT

Release 10/4/71

Week Ending 10/4/71

WEATHER Warm weather prevailed over eastern Nebraska most of the week, but cold air covered the western portion on over half of the days. Weekly mean temperatures ranged from five degrees below normal at Scottsbluff to 11 degrees above normal at Omaha. Precipitation was extremely variable with light rain or snow in the west and showers and thunderstorms in the east. Precipitation amounts from the showers varied from less than a half inch at the majority of stations to well over an inch at quite a few stations and up to two to three inches at a few. Very strong winds blew on several days.

CROPS Harvesting operations are still progressing slowly as a result of intermittent showers and high moisture grain. Strong winds caused lodging in some corn and milo fields where stalk rot or corn borer problems existed. There were also a few reports of corn ears being blown off onto the ground.

About 97 percent of the corn is matured. Some farmers are still filling silos, but corn leaves are becoming dry. A few farmers were able to harvest a small acreage, either as high moisture grain or artificially drying it for storage purposes.

Sorghums are about 95 percent ripe, but many fields still contain too much moisture for safe storage. There were numerous reports of stalk lodging or crop being blown down to the ground this past week which will cause additional problems in harvesting and a higher field loss.

Most soybean fields have shed their leaves with 85 percent of the acreage matured. Some combining is taking place where beans have dried down to safe levels for storage.

Potato digging is well under way in western areas with minor delays caused by shower activity. Dry bean harvesting has been slowed considerably by wet weather but is nearing completion in many areas. Farmers and ranchers are finishing up hay harvesting.

, Slightly more than 90 percent of the winter wheat is planted with generally good stands in western areas; however, top soils are still dry in many eastern counties and will cause uneven germination of fields that have been planted.

LIVESTOCK Livestock conditions are generally good, but there were a few reports of swine disease. Pasture feed conditions improved somewhat in western areas as the wet weather softened the dry, brittle grass. There is movement of feeder calves and lambs into marketing channels.

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE TELEGRAPHIC REPORT OF PRECIPITATION FOR WEEK ENDING 10/3/71

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